

# THE HAWAIIAN STAR

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WALTER G. SMITH, EDITOR

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## ROOSEVELT THE SHOWMAN

Colonel Roosevelt apparently yearns for another San Juan hill and its political effect. It is said at Washington that, during the Madero revolution, he offered his services to the President as colonel of cavalry in the event of intervention, and it is further said that his willingness to be commander in chief of the army has been also shown. The latter point, however, is somewhat obscure, the President himself holding that position.

Colonel Roosevelt is the most sensational self-advertiser ever known in American public life. He is almost as apt a phrase-maker as Kipling and he never fails to associate his name with an idea or project that makes talk. Now the subject is race suicide, or spelling reform or nature fakers, or a cruise around the world of a fleet of battleships or some choice bit of muck-raking—it is always something out of the usual. Had there been intervention in Madero's time and Roosevelt got a command, the latter would have been in the presidential campaign later, as a Man-on-Horseback; and if war with Mexico comes about now his campaign will be for nomination and election as a military president.

"The great showman" used to be the title of P. T. Barnum but Theodore Roosevelt has usurped it. No three-ring circus tent satisfies his ambition, he who lives best to pose in the gaze of mankind.

## MR. ATKINSON'S INTERVIEW

We do not know whether Mr. A. L. C. Atkinson is faithfully reported or not but the Hilo correspondence of the Advertiser quotes him as follows:

Atkinson added that a great deal of the news which had been published about himself, George Carter and others, about secret sessions and so forth, was not only incorrect, but was wilfully fabricated. He spoke particularly about Editor Walter G. Smith of the Star. "I told Walter G. Smith about it," said Atkinson. "I told him that some of the Star articles were incorrect, and wilfully so. He answered that when the Star went into a fight, it went in to win, even if it did make false statements."

Mr. Atkinson took occasion to say to the editor of the Star that the story from Washington printed in advance of Kuhio's return that the latter wanted either an unincorporated or an anti-Taft delegation to the national convention, was untrue. It was the story sent at the same time by Correspondent Breckons and Manager Timmons of the Star and which was justified afterward by the Desha letter. Kuhio changed his mind about the pledging of the delegation to Taft, en route. He saw the trend on the mainland and was wired from here at sea to say nothing until he consulted his advisers on the ground. Meanwhile the Taft League had been organized in Honolulu and Kuhio saw the Taft sentiment on every side, so he conceded a Taft delegation. So did Mr. Atkinson, whose acts of party conspiracy had been all along known to the leaders. Even now he is lukewarm towards Taft as his Hilo interview shows.

We wish to characterize the statement attributed to Mr. Atkinson that the editor of the Star ever told him directly or indirectly or by implication that when the Star went into a fight "it went in to win, even if it did make false statements," as a mere fabrication worthy of being described by a short and ugly word. We assume, however, that nobody believed the story, thinking that Mr. Atkinson was misquoted.

## INSPECTING THE INSIDE.

After showing all the tourists that could be collected, through the supreme effort of the year, the outside of Honolulu—the best side in fact—it is meet that this Paradise of the Pacific metropolis should take a look at its inside. An opportunity for performing this function of self-examination is afforded by the Palama Settlement directors in the Public Welfare Exhibit now open at that institution. Here the seamy side of our boasted civilization is laid bare, as well as some methods exhibited whereby the disreputable features of Honolulu's civic status may be eliminated.

This is a show that, if its lessons are well learned, should bring more real benefits to Honolulu than all the floral parades, trans-Pacific yacht races, Pan-Pacific fraternizations and all the rest of the promotion enterprises ever planned or carried out. When the latest congressional visit was made, some wise souls in the party took a turn, outside of the itinerary arranged by the reception committee, into the rude and rugged purlieus of the town to see how the masses lived. But it really matters little, one way or another, to what extent outsiders may investigate conditions of life for the majority in Honolulu. They go away and moralize on our claims to civilized distinction, and, however altruistic their disposition or ample their means of gratifying it, they will not come back to assist in putting wrong things to rights. All the good likely to come of their discoveries will be from the influence of their critical sentiments that may drift back on the wings of the press.

The great essential is for the town to know itself, and, if the knowledge prove humiliating, to make the promptest and most earnest efforts at reforming the conditions existing which blotch the city's fair fame and imperil public health and morals. Officially conducted health expeditions, such as were lately in vogue, no doubt have a good deal of influence in stimulating movements toward wiping out the built-up and crowded slums and abolishing the pestilential unwholesome tracts that abound. Even fashionable slumming tours are not without some good effect in the same way. Yet a very few of the good people of Honolulu have taken part in either of these modes of seeing the worst of their city. The exposition now open for the week at Palama affords, in very telling manner, object lessons that are enough in themselves to give citizens lines of work sufficient for a year to come, both in personal assistance and in influencing the authorities, toward making Honolulu clean, healthful and moral.

China is getting into the foreign war business, it would appear, before peace at home is well assured. She invites a peck of troubles by the hasty reprisals she is reported to have taken against the Dutch for three Chinese murdered, probably by irresponsible outlaws, in Dutch territory. Even the United States and Great Britain, when having wars on their hands, pocketed seeming affronts or ignored aggressions upon their fixed foreign policies, until the immediate trouble they were engaged in was over. Then, in all probability, the matter that had given irritation was composed without war. This was the case in connection with both the War of the Rebellion and the Boer War.

No accident has ever occurred at Kilauea volcano which was not attributable to either carelessness or foolishness on the part of the victims. With the well marked trails now existing there, and the safe points of ample observation of the interior of the pit, any person of ordinary sense may visit the crater without a companion or guide in perfect safety. Accidents of any kind at the volcano have been very rare and fatalities none.

The rebels in Mexico appear to be gaining as much headway as was held by their predecessors within a short time before President Diaz was overthrown. President Madero appears to have lost his grip if he ever had it. The full of Juarez is surely a disgrace to the name of the government that permitted it to occur with a feeble exchange of shots.

Sydney, it would appear, has the ambition to possess an aquarium superior to that of Honolulu. It ought to try something easy—say, to beat Hawaii on rainbows.

## Walt Mason The Poet Philosopher

My friend Whang Baxter's out of work. He used to be a hard-ware clerk and did his duty passing well, but rheumatism on him fell and bunged him up to such extent that all his coin to doctors went. And now he's on his feet once more, and a CANDIDATE wants a job in some one's store. Your suffrage for old Whang I count; he's far more worthy your support than chronic patriots who chase across this poor old planet's face and beg that you will save their goat when comes the day on which men vote. Let all the chronics go and hang; come out with me and whoop for Whang. He needs a job, the statesmen don't; he'll earn his pay, the statesmen won't. It makes no odds to you and me who our next president may be; we'll have to rustle just the same, whatever the outcome of the game. But old Whang Baxter, out and down, is living here in our own town; he needs a job like everything, so let us make the welkin ring, and give a big torch-light parade, and hold a caucus for his aid, and try to influence the press to help relieve old Whang's distress. Copyright, 1912, by George Matthew Adams. WALT MASON.

## LITTLE INTERVIEWS

DR. PRATT—Plague does not scare people like it used to. A vigorous rat campaign can do wonders.

GOVERNOR FREAR—Everybody should see the Welfare Exhibit. It is that sort of thing that counts.

HENRY K. SNIFFEN, stamp clerk—I am kept busy informing my patrons that the rate of postage on letters for England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and Newfoundland is 2 cents per ounce.

DR. MCCOY—it would be a great work for the richer nations to work together and wipe yellow fever off the face of the earth. It would not be a very hard task, now that we know the only means of spreading the disease—namely, the mosquito.

"SLIM" GILMORE—There are a couple of bronze lions out on Nuuanu avenue which I should like to borrow. I want to set them up in my training camp so that they will keep my mind on the "Hilo Lion" whom I meet in a couple of weeks.

CHARLIE REEVES—Fishing isn't of much account at this time of the year. The weather is variable and fish seem to go right off schedule in the matter of feeding. Along about the middle of next month things should begin to mend somewhat for the fisherman.

CHEF FORD—People expected too much at the recent H. A. P. entertainment. The guests came expecting a sumptuous spread whereas we had planned to entertain them to a Chinese dinner and felt sure that they would appreciate the novelty. There is no pleasing some people!

MR. ADAMS (of Washington State)—It is about time the United States ceased to be dictated to by the Pacific Coast States in the matter of immigration. The country is being held back for lack of labor in the farming regions. A white man will not look at a job for anything less than \$50 a month and found, and then can't be counted on to stay with it for three months.

## ONLY ONE FISH OF THE LOT TAKEN TO SYDNEY IS LIVING

With but a single exception, all of the dozen or more Hawaiian fishes which Captain Gihb of the Makura took south with him on his last trip, were "sacrificed in the interests of science," when they reached Sydney. No preparation had evidently been made to care for the bright colored beauties by the Australian aquarium authorities. The following is from the Sydney Morning Herald:

"When Captain Gihb of the Makura filled a bath with specimens of fish taken from the waters of Honolulu, and brought a good many to Sydney, he demonstrated the possibility of successfully transporting fish alive between these distant points. Several varieties of the beautiful fish of the tropics arrived by the big steamer in excellent condition.

"Unfortunately, there was no suitable accommodation for the collection here alive, and, with the exception of one, their lives were sacrificed in the interests of science. The sole survivor, selected for the wonderful brilliance of big coloring, is at present the occupant of a tank at the Zoo, where, happily, Mr. Le Sueur chanced to be experimenting with salt water anemones. It is a soldier fish, which is also known by a variety of other names, such as Welshman, squirrel-fish and solado. About eight inches in length, bright crimson in color, with pale longitudinal stripes, and large eyes, that might well be described as intelligent, it is indeed a noticeable fish. This brilliant specimen, which belongs to a pugnacious, active, and carnivorous type, has also its economic value, for its flesh is firm and much sought after.

"The remainder of the collection were forwarded to the Sydney Museum, where they will be duly classified and preserved. These consist of various members of the parrot fish species and balistidae, or tile fish, closely allied to the familiar leather-jackets of our waters, and other varieties that are not uncommon to our waters.

"Some of these tropical fish possess such gorgeous coloring as to defy the brush of the artist, and the iridescence and transparency of their hues exceed those of the most vividly tinted butterfly or bird. Being denizens of the coral reef, which blaze with all the colors of a terrestrial garden, it is essential for their protection that they should harmonize with their surroundings. One fish—the Goby—found also on the Barrier Reef, is of the most vivid emerald, spotted with the brightest vermillion. Others have hues almost indescribable.

"It is one of the dreams of the director of the Zoo that Sydney shall possess an aquarium to rival or excel the far-famed institution at Honolulu. There are no natural obstacles to prevent the consummation of such an

idea in the opinions of experts. Apart from the beautiful situation of the projected Zoo at Ashton Park, there are many natural facilities which lend themselves admirably to the construction of a great aquarium. Australian waters, moreover, hold many of the most beautiful varieties to be found in the world. One has only to inspect the exhibits on the shelves of the Museum to be seized with the possibilities of our coastal waters to picture equally equip an aquarium."

## CALIFORNIA OIL

SUPERSEDING COAL  
Consul Abraham E. Smith, Victoria, B. C., Canada: There is every indication that California oil is to permanently supersede coal for fuel on steamers engaged on the coast service and inland waters of British Columbia.

For four years the American steamer Ingonia, plying between Seattle and the ports of Victoria and Vancouver, has used California oil for fuel. However, it was not till a year ago that the Canadian companies ventured to make the experiment of converting their steamers into oil burners. At that time the Princess May was changed from coal to oil burning, at a cost of nearly \$12,000. The experiment was successful, demonstrating not only that the fuel was considerably cheaper, reducing expense of at least twelve Bremen, but also that it more quickly responded to demands for increased heat, and was much more cleanly.

Last spring the premier steamer of the Canadian Pacific Railway coast fleet, the Princess Charlotte, was changed from a coal to an oil burner, at the yards in Victoria, and although it proved a long and very expensive work, yet the results have been eminently satisfactory, as the vessel has gained nearly one knot in speed, been operated at less expense than ever before, and made the triangular trip from Victoria via Vancouver to Seattle and return with the regularity of an express train.

The new steamer, the Princess Alice, which arrived a few weeks since from England, had the oil tanks and burners installed when built, thus making the third Canadian Pacific steamer to use oil for fuel. On January 3 another, the fourth, of the same fleet—the Princess Adelaide—was taken off the triangular run and sent to Seattle, there to be converted into an oil burner at the Moran Brothers' shipyard, at a cost of \$10,000.

The Grand Trunk Pacific Steamship Co. runs two fine steamers, the Prince Rupert and the Prince George, each week from Seattle via Victoria and Vancouver to Prince Rupert and return. Conversion of the latter is now well under way at the yards of the

British Columbia Marine Railway at Esquimalt, British Columbia; when completed it will relieve the Prince Rupert, and the latter will then tie up at Esquimalt to be made an oil burner. It is expected a large number of coasting vessels will be burning oil when the anticipated great spring rush starts in April.

Alterations to the American steamship Victoria, of the Alaska Steamship Co., now under way at the yards of the Seattle Construction & Dry Dock Co., include the installation of an oil-burning system. It is stated the steamship Mariposa, recently purchased by the Alaska Steamship Co. for its southwestern Alaska service, is also to be converted into an oil burner, and the steamship M. F. Plant, of the Alaska Pacific Steamship Co., is now undergoing similar alterations.

## ELECTRIC INCUBATOR

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One of the largest electric incubators in use anywhere in the world was built for a poultry raiser in New Orleans. It is 40 feet long by 5 feet wide, and contains 40 compartments, each having a capacity of 150 eggs. Each compartment can be separately controlled, so that any one, or all of the compartments, can be operated, according to the number of eggs to be hatched. The controlling thermostats used do not completely break the heater circuit, but introduce the comparatively high resistance of a small electric lamp when open, thus avoiding sparking at the contacts. The March Popular Mechanics Magazine contains a picture of the incubator.

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